



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DAVE TRAVIS

81ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

RECEIVED
FEB 27 2006
Commissioners' Office

February 23, 2006

Public Service Commission
 Daniel R. Ebert, Chairman
 610 N Whitney Way
 PO Box 7854
 Madison WI 53707-7854

Dear Commissioner Ebert,

I am writing to indicate my support for a local decision made by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Waunakee. On the 6th of this month, the Board of Trustees enacted Resolution R06-01 declaring "the Village of Waunakee urges the Wisconsin Public Service Commission to require ATC (American Transmission Company) to bury the proposed power lines anywhere within one-half mile of the political boundaries of the Village of Waunakee." I offer my complete support of such an action in regards to the proposed North Madison-Waunakee transmission line.

While I have no official role in the process of approving this proposal, I want to add my voice and name to the list of those supporting the actions of local citizens in this matter. In a matter like this, local decisions and values should be one of the highest priorities. I joined my colleagues, Rep. Frank Boyle (D-Superior) and Rep. Sindy Pope-Roberts (D-Verona), in voting against legislation that opened public lands to condemnation by private utilities, because local decisions were being cast aside for lobbied decisions from Madison.

There is no doubt in my mind that transmission lines are needed throughout Dane County and surrounding areas. There is a need for power in our fast growing county. There is also a greater need to generate more power in Wisconsin and stop importing vast amounts of power from out-state. However we as a state attempt to answer these needs we must place first and foremost in our minds the impacts these answers will have on local citizens in all areas affected.

(1)

Commissioner Daniel R. Ebert
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I have enclosed copies of the resolution from the Village of Waunakee for your review. Thank you for accepting my registration of support for this resolution and I hope that in your deliberations you will be guided by the will of the people in our area. As Robert La Follette, Sr. once said, "The will of the people shall be the law of the land."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Travis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dave" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Travis".

DAVE TRAVIS
State Representative
81st Assembly District
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy & Utilities

DT:emp

enclosures

cc: John Laubmeier, President, Village of Waunakee
Julie Helt, Clerk, Village of Waunakee
Robin Stearns, Wire Safe Wisconsin
Commissioner Robert M. Garvin, PSC
Commissioner Mark Meyer, PSC
Sen. Jon Erpenbach
Rep. Sody Pope-Roberts
Rep. Frank Boyle

RESOLUTION R06- 01

**RESOLUTION URGING WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE
TO REQUIRE BURIED POWER LINES**

WHEREAS, high voltage power lines strung through or along a residential area would almost certainly have serious negative effects on the enjoyment of one's property by homeowners; and

WHEREAS, high voltage power lines strung through or along a residential area would almost certainly have a negative effect on the property values of homeowners in the area; and

WHEREAS, the reduced property values along the property lines would necessarily lead to higher property taxes for other property owners in the Village of Waunakee; and

WHEREAS, the additional cost to rate payers for the buried power line along Savannah Village would be pennies per household while the cost to Savannah Village homeowners for an above ground power line could well be thousands of dollars per household; and


WHEREAS, economic fairness calls for the users of the power to pay for the effects of their use;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Village Board of the village of Waunakee, that the Village of Waunakee urges the Wisconsin Public Service Commission to require ATC to bury the proposed power lines anywhere within one-half mile of the political boundaries of the Village of Waunakee.

Adopted this 6th day of February, 2006.


John Laubmeier, Village President

ATTEST:


Julie R. Helt, Village Clerk